United Nations E/ICEF/2018/L.13

Economic and Social Council

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14 September 2018

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For decision

United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2018
12–14 September 2018
Agenda item 3

Draft decision submitted to the Executive Board

Proposed programme of work for the Executive Board sessions in 2019

The Executive Board

Adopts the programme of work for the Executive Board sessions in 2019 as a flexible framework subject to revisions as appropriate in the course of the year.

Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP (date to be confirmed)

First regular session *5–8 February 2019*	*Annual session* *11–14 June 2019*	*Second regular session* *11–13 September 2019*
Organizational and procedural matters	**Organizational and procedural matters**	**Organizational and procedural matters**
Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board *(D)* (8 January 2019)[1]		Proposed programme of work for the Executive Board sessions in 2020 *(D)*
Programme and policy matters	**Programme and policy matters**	**Programme and policy matters**
UNICEF programme cooperation:	Annual report for 2018 of the Executive Director of UNICEF *(D)*	UNICEF programme cooperation:
Country programme documents *(D)*	UNICEF report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit[2] *(I)*	Country programme documents *(D)*
Extensions of ongoing country programmes *(D)*		Extensions of ongoing country programmes *(D)*

[1] This date is tentative.
[2] The report is considered under the agenda item, "Annual report of the Executive Director of UNICEF".

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First regular session *5–8 February 2019*	*Annual session* *11–14 June 2019*	*Second regular session* *11–13 September 2019*
Oral report on UNICEF follow-up to recommendations and decisions of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Programme Coordinating Board meetings *(I)* Update on UNICEF humanitarian action *(I)*	Annual report on UNICEF humanitarian action *(D)* Annual report on the implementation of the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2018–2021 *(I)* UNICEF programme cooperation: Country programme documents *(D)* Extensions of ongoing country programmes *(D)*	Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021 *(I)* Oral update on UNICEF humanitarian action *(I)*
Evaluation, audit and oversight matters Evaluation reports and management responses *(D)*	**Evaluation, audit and oversight matters** Annual report for 2018 on the evaluation function in UNICEF *(D)*, and management response Evaluation reports and management responses *(D)* Report of the Ethics Office of UNICEF for 2018 *(D)*, and management response Office of Internal Audit and Investigations 2018 annual report to the Executive Board *(D)*, and management response UNICEF Audit Advisory Committee 2018 annual report *(I)* Update on policies and processes of UNICEF on tackling sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment	**Evaluation, audit and oversight matters** Evaluation reports and management responses *(D)*
Resource, financial and budgetary matters UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 and report of the Board of Auditors *(D)*, and management response Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2019 workplan and proposed budget *(D)* Oral update on the work of the National Committees for UNICEF *(I)*	**Resource, financial and budgetary matters**	**Resource, financial and budgetary matters** UNICEF Strategic Plan: updated financial estimates, 2019–2022 *(D)* Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report for the year ended 31 December 2018 *(I)*

First regular session *5–8 February 2019*	*Annual session* *11–14 June 2019*	*Second regular session* *11–13 September 2019*
Other matters	**Other matters**	**Other matters**
Provisional list of agenda items for the annual session of 2019	Address by the Chairperson of the UNICEF Global Staff Association	Provisional list of agenda items for the first regular session of 2020
	Reports of the field visits of the Executive Board *(I)*	
	Provisional list of agenda items for the second regular session of 2019	

Note: *(D) — For decision*: The secretariat prepares documentation on the agenda item. The Executive Board is expected to discuss and adopt a decision under the agenda item.

(I) — For information: The secretariat prepares documentation for information. The Executive Board may opt to take a decision under the agenda item.

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Agenda item 4

Draft decision submitted to the Executive Board

Working methods

The Executive Board

1. *Reaffirms* the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UNICEF;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the joint response prepared by the secretariats of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNICEF, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the World Food Programme (WFP) to the 2018 joint meeting of the Executive Boards segment on working methods;

3. *Requests* the secretariat of the UNICEF Executive Board to circulate draft decisions at least two weeks prior to each session so that the draft decisions are available at the pre-session, and strongly encourages the Bureau to appoint, at that time, the facilitators for the respective draft decisions, in full respect to equitable regional representation, and in this regard strongly encourages Member States to provide their comments on draft decisions, if possible, prior to the start of the session, with a view to starting informal consultations on the draft decisions on the first day of the session;

4. *Also requests* UNICEF and the members of the Executive Board to make efforts to start all meetings, informal briefings and informal consultations on time and ensure that meetings, informal briefings and informal consultations are planned during United Nations working hours and avoid parallel consultations, to better facilitate the effective and constructive participation of all Member States in the work of the Board;

5. *Further requests* that the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNICEF identify a set of common agenda items, together with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP, with a view to harmonizing the consideration of those agenda items with these agencies, beginning from the first regular session of 2019 onwards;

6. *Requests* the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNICEF to develop, in consultation with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS and UN-Women, a joint online calendar of

all Board meetings, to be updated in real time and made available to the Executive Board;

7. *Also requests* UNICEF management to provide a written response to questions raised at informal briefings, upon written request by Member States, before the start of the following formal session;

8. *Further requests* UNICEF to continue to enhance documentation in order to make it more strategic and analytical, and to include best practices, actions being taken to address lessons learned, challenges and risks, building on the interactions with the Board, as appropriate;

9. *Requests* UNICEF to further enhance accessibility and ensure that the file names of Executive Board documents are clearly spelled out and indicate the content of the documents, that these documents can be downloaded in their entirety by agency and that they include full text searchability;

10. *Also requests* UNICEF to engage with the Executive Board and with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP on the efficient and effective implementation of the guidelines for Executive Board field visits and reporting requirements;

11. *Further requests* UNICEF and its Bureau to give due consideration to gender balance in panels for all meetings;

12. *Requests* the Bureau of UNICEF, in collaboration with the Bureaux of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP, to launch a joint consultative process with Member States starting at the first regular session of 2019, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Boards, building on the joint response prepared by the secretariats;

13. *Reaffirms* Executive Board decision 2014/1 and recognizes the significant efficiencies created by rationalizing the country programme document approval process and by allowing Member States to place their comments electronically and finalizing the country programme documents at least six weeks ahead of the session, and recommends that UNICEF considers to improve country programme document presentation;

14. *Decides* to eliminate the yearly field visit of the Bureau of the Executive Board of UNICEF, so as to harmonize with the practice of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP, and encourages Bureau members to seek to participate in one of the two other field visits that are available for their participation: the Executive Board field visit and the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP.

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Agenda item 5

Draft decision submitted to the Executive Board

Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report on the structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021;

2. *Requests* UNICEF to review the format and content of the report on the structured dialogue on financing, in order to further improve the quality of the structured dialogue on financing, including by providing an overview of the funding in relation to the funding requirements for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, taking into account both regular and other resources;

3. *Encourages* UNICEF to continue working jointly with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to improve collaboration on structured funding dialogues;

4. *Welcomes* the commitment of UNICEF, in close collaboration with the Secretary-General's transition team and other programmes, funds and specialized agencies, to implement General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system; also welcomes the updates provided with preliminary analysis of the financial and other implications of the resolution, and requests UNICEF to continue to engage with the Executive Board in this regard, providing regular updates as of 2019;

5. *Recalls* decision 2018/5 and requests UNICEF to double its contribution to the existing United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) cost-sharing arrangement, in accordance with resolution 72/279, to deposit its 2019 contribution as soon as possible, taking into account the Secretary-General's implementation plan, in order to operationalize the new resident coordinator system as of 1 January 2019, and

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to report on progress in this regard to the Executive Board at the annual session of 2019;

6. *Requests* that UNICEF present clear, transparent information on its contribution to resident coordinator funding modalities to the Executive Board at the annual session of 2019;

7. *Also requests* that UNICEF, as part of the UNSDG, collaborate with the Secretary-General's transition team to support the establishment of a system-wide approach to implementing all the funding modalities set out in resolution 72/279, including the levy, and to report to the Executive Board at the first regular session of 2019;

8. *Calls* on UNICEF to review its planning, financing and results reporting processes to ensure effective joint collaboration in the context of the revitalized United Nations Development Assistance Framework and to provide an update at the next session of the Executive Board on adjustments required.